

Mme. Pompadour Rose Effects to be Fashion's Rage



Madame de Pompadour

LA Pompadour has risen from the ashes of the gay eighteenth century to rule once more the world of fashion. On the hats and frocks of the twentieth century American girl her red roses glow in reckless profusion and unfading bloom; for the decoration of the hour, seen on all manner of luxurious belongings, is the Pompadour Rose.

By MARY ANNABEL FANTON.

THE rose is the flower this year. For a season at least it will be the belle among all other blossoms. Not merely in June gardens, or Easter bonnets; in the corsage bouquet and over the wedding altar; but in every pretty lawn and silk frock, on parasols, in ribbons, scattered, on paraisols, in coat linings, painted and embroidered, woven and printed and applied will be seen the huge, full-bloom brilliant Pompadour rose.

Flower of La Pompadour.

It is not a new fashion, but a revival of the whim of a beautiful French woman whose smile outweighed the arguments of famous cabinet ministers, and whose slightest whim set the fashions for European courts.

Because the rose was her favorite flower it in time decorated half of France. It was the floral motif for all the loveliest decorations of the time of Louis XIV. There were rose brocades, furniture was inlaid with the Pompadour rose, and indeed, no article of dress that was not embroidered or painted with the court beauty's preferred blossoms.

Revival of the Original Craze.

The painted pompadour rose hung in garlands from the ceilings of kings' palaces; the living rose covered the fragrant trellises in queens' gardens, and the craze for the crimson blossoms grew from a fashion fad to a fever that changed the history of France for half a century.

And now because a pretty girl gave a Pompadour dance last winter, at which she wore Pompadour colors and found them becoming and then furnished the room a la Pompadour, we are suddenly in the midst of a Pompadour rose craze in America, and the rose is everywhere, from our hats to our table linen.

The shops this spring are like a garden fête, with goods showing garlands of roses, bunches of roses, roses in tall vases and squat jars; roses growing over green trellises and over brown lattices; tight, formal bouquets and scattered rose petals.

If you open a fan on a counter, it is

painted with a rose garden and "pompadour ladies." If a ribbon flutters, it is a streamer of roses, large or small, pink or crimson.

Summer Girl Will Be Rose-Adorned.

Though every sort of rose is seen, from the great red cabbage flower down to pale yellow Scotch blossoms and delicate single eglantine, it is the Pompadour rose that leads the craze—the large, full-petaled, wide-open, deep red rose—vividly sumptuous and decorative to a degree.

And, too, the old French tapestry and brocade designs are most in evidence. So the summer girl will walk abroad in gowns adorned with large, stiff bunches of roses, or with vases of the flowers, or with a garden trellis floating about her.

And besides dress goods of all sorts in rose designs, there are Pompadour hats and parasols, and slippers and lace, and gauzy dancing scarfs, and even foolish little Pompadour handkerchiefs, one or two blossoms covering the whole space.

Exquisite Designs of Gauzy Fabrics.

The thin summer dress goods with rose decorations are the loveliest of all. The most beautiful designs on the richest gauzy stuffs all have the effect of being painted, and are often made to stand out from the fabric in fine relief by the weaving in of gray shadows back of the flowers, just as they would appear if painted. Often the shadows prove to be loops upon loops of gray ribbon, which whirl out into bow knots in a space not taken up by roses.

Fine silk illusion, fine moline, chiffon gauze, liberty gauze, silk muslin, silk mull and silk point d'esprit are the materials most used as a foundation for the beautiful Pompadour rose designs. Usually the background is white, the roses in natural hue, most often red, though now and again pink or yellow; and blue and green roses in startling designs are not unknown.

Delicate Watercolor Effects.

A tinted background, with roses of the same hue but deeper tone, is very beautiful, especially if the flowers are shown with shadowy water color outline and in the tapestry-stitch wave. It makes the whole fabric a changing mass of color, with now and again a huge rose forming part of the beautiful confusion. For ingenious gowns the thinnest silk

gauze is used, as delicate as a flower petal and transparent as a butterfly's wing—in white, and over the entire ground are scattered single sweetbrier roses, exquisitely realistic in color, with here and there a pale green leaf, and thorny brown sweetbrier stalk.

These rose muslins are made up over the palest rose chiffon in some simple, old-fashioned style, with baby waists and elbow sleeves and full skirts that look as though the summer wind from a rose garden had reached them.

Some lovely Pompadour lawn frocks are made with overskirts, the first in many years. Short at the sides, pointed to the knees, front and back, and gathered at the waist is the first overskirt idea for 1904.

Return of the Overskirt.

With these overskirt dresses all the decoration is in the floral design of the material; the two skirts are plain, except for plaitings of the same goods. A kerchief and elbow sleeves are often worn with the Pompadour overskirt dress, and either a Pompadour hat or a "milkmaid bonnet."

The former is novel and very becoming to nearly all women. It has a wide brim, edged with a frill of lace, a low crown covered with roses and a plaiting of chiffon on the underbrim.

Various pale tints are often combined in these Pompadour hats, as was the custom in the days of Mme. Pompadour. With red or pink roses are ribbons of pale blue, delicate green velvet, and lace of yellowish cream. Especially are pink and blue often combined as we have not seen them in years.

The Pompadour summer coat is ample length, belted at the back in a short-waisted style and shirred full about the shoulders. It is of cream satin, broad-brief roses, exquisitely realistic in color, with here and there a pale green leaf, and thorny brown sweetbrier stalk.

A Pompadour hat with this coat would have a crown of blue and pink roses and a full point de Paris lace, and the frills would be the fougard, with pink dots—a costume truly after the color-loving heart of the great French beauty.

Pompadour Form as Well as Color.

Some of the prettiest evening summer gowns will be modeled closely after the dress Madame Pompadour actually wore. The bodice will be the close-fitting Colonial effect, just reaching the waist, with elbow sleeves and instead of a kerchief about the low neck a full wreath of the Pompadour roses.

The skirt made full, just escaping the ground and given a petticoat effect by streamers of roses down the two front seams; then roses at the corsage and in the hair. It is not overplushy in effect, yet novel and daintily becoming to the slender woman.

La Pompadour Enthroned in Roses.

The gowns worn by La Pompadour herself were not only rose-trimmed, but the gowns in the later part of the century received was garlanded with roses, and the stool on which you knelt to kiss her hand was of rose satin and rose-enameled wood.

The New York girl may omit the rose footstool, but she is very audacious in taking her fad in other directions.

For instance, it is her esthetic whim to have Pompadour lingerie, and surely this would have been a novel thought even to the spoiled French beauty. But Pompadour petticoats there are, and corset covers, and Pompadour wash ribbons to garnish the plain garments of simpler folks.

Pretty Pompadour Petticoats.

The petticoats are usually in plain color, pale rose or blue, and the flowers are of liberty ribbon, covered with roses in red or pink. The corset cover is white, with a small rose design, and encompasses round about with the sweet observance of a Pompadour sash tied over the bust in a wide bow that is at once a sash and the understudy for a pad.

And all sorts of flowered muslin will be made up into nightgowns and pajamas, suits, and empire chemises.

Also the sun is kept from the rose skin and blue eyes of the Pompadour by a Pompadour parasol, of cream satin or chiffon, covered with great splashes of roses and edged with a deep frill of rose point lace.

And although the Pompadour costume may involve a check for several hundreds, with its hand-painted silk illusions, its hand-embroidered Persian trimmings, its chiffon lining and real rose point lace, it can be accomplished for just a few dollars in most genuinely artistic effects. A rose lawn for 15 cents a yard, a rose hat of point d'esprit lace

and silk muslin roses, a sash of pink ribbon, a pink lawn petticoat, and you have a Pompadour girl, pretty and simple and ingenua, a success of taste in-

stead of money, and you feel the American girl may be as whimsical as she likes, with the ability to make so lovely a picture for little expense.

MRS. ROOSEVELT'S SPRING GARDENING

(Copyright, 1904, by Walden Fawcett.)

MRS. ROOSEVELT is just now deep in preparations for her spring gardening at the White House. No other housewife in America has to plan in the morning of each year so extensive a flower show as the First Lady of the Land. This year the task is unusually arduous, for the Presidential Mansion is to have the most gorgeous floral setting in the history of the historic old building. The present mistress of the White House is very conscientious in the discharge of the duties incident to the dressing of her little estate in its bright spring robes. There have been some First Ladies of the land who have been content to merely make superficial suggestions as to the adornment of the White House grounds, but Mrs. Roosevelt gives active supervision to the gardening.

This year Uncle Sam's force of thirty expert gardeners at the United States Propagating gardens in the city of Washington have prepared for the adornment of the public grounds of the National Capital a grand total of 1,250,000 plants—a quarter of a million more than were ever before provided for such a purpose—and of this great wealth of ornamental vegetation a large proportion will find its way to the eighty-acre tract which constitutes the yard of the White House.

The dawning season is to be a notable one at the first residence of America

from the fact that it is to mark the inauguration of an interesting new project—the establishment of Colonial gardens in the rear of the mansion. The scheme was outlined last season and, indeed, the preliminary work in preparing the beds was carried out, but it waited upon this season to give them their bright-eyed little inhabitants. Mrs. Roosevelt's new Colonial potsy beds will be similar to those at Mount Vernon, and will unquestionably be the most attractive examples of this style of gardening to be found anywhere in America.

The establishment of these Colonial gardens at the White House is interesting as giving Presidential approval to another tendency to return to the simpler standards of our forefathers. At the period when our ancestors were building houses with stately columns and immense porticos they were wont to ornament their lawns with the plants and flowers of the woods which could be obtained at little expense and thrived with little care. With the spread of wealth in the land, however, fashion turned to the more costly tropical plants and hot-house creations. Of late though the revival of the Colonial style of architecture has renewed interest in the old-fashioned plants, and it is eminently fitting that the White House, which has but recently been restored to the Colonial lines laid down by the men who originally planned it, should be given a setting in keeping with its stately simplicity.

The new Colonial gardens at the Executive Mansion are located on either

side of the south veranda of the mansion, facing the Potomac. There are eight beds each about seventy-five by twenty-five feet in size. The beds on one side of the portico are in the form of ovals between which are priests' caps, while those on the other side of the portico are in the form of bishops' caps. Each garden is surrounded by a grass border bedecked with standard shrubs. Gravel walks surround the gardens, which are hemmed in with a hedge of tree box. Wide borders of herbaceous plants with edging will corset the demarcation between the plants and the walks.

The new gardens will be planted complete during the latter part of April and the month of May, and the plants to be given places will be selected with a view to making the garden a mass of bloom during as many months as possible each year. Special attention is being given to the selection of plants which will bloom in the spring and late autumn, when Mrs. Roosevelt and the children are at the White House. All the so-called old-fashioned flowers will be represented in the galaxy under the shadow of the White House, and a place of honor will be given to the golden rod, which has so frequently been urged as the national flower of the United States. Nor will the Colonial gardens be the only novelties in the floral line at the Presidential mansion this season. Climbing roses are to cover the iron bars of the fence which incloses the strictly private grounds at the White House, and will form a beautiful hedge.

One or two rose bushes are already growing over the President's new office building, and it is planned to this season have the little building well nigh covered with climbing roses and clematis.

Great beds filled with artistic flowers will be spread out like brilliant-hued rugs on the velvety lawn before the White House, and the great fountain basins will be more crowded than ever with rare and beautiful aquatic plants. A change is to be made in the adornment of the imposing porte cochere which shelters the private entrance to the Presidential home and in the embellishment of the one-story masonry terrace which extends upward of 200 feet east and west of the mansion proper. Last year these terraces were outlined by rows of bay and box trees set in tubs, but it has been concluded that the box did not add to the artistic effect, and this year the great white expanse will be relieved only by the bay trees.

These bay trees are all beautiful specimens of their kind and were imported from Boskoop, Holland, at a cost of more than \$300 each. There are about seventy of these highly ornamental trees, all with the dark green foliage trimmed very close, and a large proportion of them are virtually identical in appearance. Each top is sixty inches in diameter and the tree stems are from thirty-six to forty-two inches long, and the total height from fifty-one to fifty-four inches. As the trees are planted in tubs two feet high the tops of the bay trees tower above the heads of persons walking on the terraces. Four especially large trees have been provided for the ornamentation of the porte-cochere. Two of

these trees have ball-shaped tops and two pyramidal tops. Each tree is seventy-eight inches in diameter and seventy-eight inches high. There are also six pairs of pyramidal bays each thirty-six inches in diameter and seven feet high. Bay trees cannot be successfully grown in this country. Those imported for the White House range in age from fifteen to twenty years, although the four very large trees under the porte-cochere are each thirty years of age. While Mrs. Roosevelt is very fond of asters, poppies, dahlias, columbine, hollyhocks, and all the other old-fashioned flowers which are to have places in her new gardens, her especial favorites in the floral kingdom are the jessamine, lilies of the valley, and orchids. The President is very fond of the blue heliotrope, and a great quantity of this flower is to be grown especially for him. Former mistresses of the White House have had varied tastes in flowers. Mrs. McKinley shared her husband's preference for carnations; Mrs. Cleveland took delight in roses and chrysanthemums; Mrs. Harrison, who died in the White House, was especially fond of orchids, and Mrs. Grant was enthusiastic over almost every variety of roses.

A majority of the flowers for the ornamentation of the White House grounds were formerly grown in the big conservatories which adjoined the mansion, but since the recent improvements the fountain head for the White House floral supply is at the Government propagating gardens, where there are five greenhouses devoted especially to supplying the Presidential household. Four of these greenhouses are each 18 by 76 feet in size, and there is a rose house 25 by 180 feet. The total area of the buildings is, however, only one-half that of the old buildings, and consequently there has been much crowding of flowers when, as this season, an unusually ambitious planting project is under way.